

Reckitt files patent infringement case against Aurobindo Pharma

fe Bureau

Hyderabad, Sept 22: New Jersey-based Reckitt Benckiser LLC has filed a patent infringement case against Aurobindo Pharma.

The infringement was on Guaifenesin sustained release formulation and tablets issued during 2002, 2005, and 2010 following a Paragraph IV certification as part of Aurobindo's filing of an ANDA to manufacture a generic version of the plaintiff's Mucinex and Mucinex used to treat chest congestion. Meanwhile, in a similar patent infringement case, Israel-based Teva Pharmaceutical Industries



has filed litigations against Sandoz, Momenta Pharmaceuticals and Dr Reddy's Laboratories in the US District Court of Delaware. The case relates to infringement of US patents issued on July 31, 2012 and March 19, 2013 following a Paragraph IV certification as part of defendants' filing of an ANDA to manufacture a generic version of Teva's Copaxone

(glatiramer acetate injection), used for the reduction or frequency of relapses in patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis.

Dr Reddy's had recently filed the first patent challenge against Teva Pharma for Copaxone. The drug generated approximately \$4.3 billion in worldwide sales in 2013, accounting for more than 21% of Teva's total revenues. Its US sales were \$3.2 billion in 2013.

Worldwide Copaxone revenues edged up 1% to \$1.07 billion in the first quarter of 2014. Sales in the US grew 1% to \$816 million benefiting from a January price increase.

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